

DUF6 RFP Questions & Answers

Q1 – Q111

1. Section A, SF-33, block 3. The word “draft” appears in block 3 of the SF-33 form. Should the word draft be removed?

Answer: The word “draft” has been removed

2. SF 33, SF33, Section B requires the Total Estimated Cost and Total Available Award Fee for the Portsmouth and Paducah Facilities as separate values. However, WBS 1.01 and 1.02 do not include a calculation of the award fee. The only WBS that has an award fee calculation is 1.00 which is the entire contract. Unless a line item for award fee is included in WBS 1.01 and 1.02, you will not be able to identify the proposed award fee for both contracts. Do we have permission to modify WBS 1.01 and 1.02 to include the calculation of award fee for both sites?

Answer: Yes.

3. Reference RFP Section B.3 (b) and (c), Section C.3.1.3.5, Attachment L-4, Attachment L-7. : The requirements for pricing option 1 and option 2 are open to interpretation, which may result in significant disparity between bidders’ cost proposals. The following describes the approach and rationale for our approach to options costing.

Section B.3 (b) and (c) states that–

- WBS 1.02.01.01.04 and WBS 1.01.01.01.04, including project management, are hot functional testing option items
- Hot functional testing is to be performed in accordance with section C, paragraph C.3.1.3.5

We interpret these instructions to mean that the cost to be presented in the Attachment L-4 WBS 1.02.01.01.04 and WBS 1.01.01.01.04 summary sheets would be exclusively those costs required to–

- a) Execute the SOW requirement as set forth in section C, paragraph C.3.1.3.5
- b) Cover the cost of the incremental increase in management required to execute the hot functional testing scope.

The balance of the WBS elements would include the costs for performing the remaining contract scope concurrent with the hot functional testing performance period.

Is this approach to option pricing correct?

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Answer: Yes. The proposed costs included in Attachment L-4, WBS 1.01.01.01.04 and 1.02.01.01.04 should include all incremental costs associated with the Hot Functional Testing requirements identified in Section C.3.1.3.

4. In accordance with B.8, SB's are exempt from the contractor's fee pool. However for greater than \$10 million major subcontractors, we are required to supply a rate breakdown. As the subcontractor rate includes fee, there is no place on L to identify this fee. Is it allowable for the Offeror to add a line item for a major subcontractor fee in this situation?

Answer: Yes.

5. Section C.4.9, page C-10: "Any DUF6 conversion products, by-products, or the empty cylinders, which are determined to be waste shall be processed, packaged, and certified to meet the waste acceptance criteria (WAC) at the federal disposal facility or at another licensed low-level waste (LLW) repository." This implies that all wastes are radioactive. Later on page C-11 it states "wastes can include the empty cylinders, neutralization products (e.g., fluorides of calcium, sodium, and potassium [CaF₂, NaF, KF])"... Some wastes, like the neutralization products should meet radiological release criteria. Can the neutralization products that cannot be sold be disposed of in a sanitary landfill?

Answer: All materials and radioactive and non-radioactive waste shall be dispositioned as appropriate for the type of material or waste, and in accordance with applicable waste acceptance criteria. The converted product shall be disposed of at the federal disposal facility and the Clive facility in accordance with Section L.24. (e)(1)(iv), i.e., according to the 50/50 split by volume of converted product.

6. Section C.5.6.3, bullet 12, page C-16: "Shipments of the waste shall not commence before issuance of the amended ROD by DOE." What is the status of the ROD? If the ROD is to be amended, when will it be issued by DOE?

Answer: DOE currently plans to publish the Amended ROD in 4th Qtr 2009

7. Section C.6.2.2 states "the Contractor shall be required to take receipt of newly generated DUF6 cylinders from U.S. commercial enrichers." This is an indefinite quantity work scope requirement. Will DOE provide bidders the newly generated cylinder estimated receipt rate over the contracting period?

Answer: Please see Amendment 001.

8. Reference: C.6.2.3 and Table F-1, Deliverable D-9, Section C.6.2.3 states the contractor shall provide a plan to transport a limited number of cylinders smaller than 30 inches in

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diameter to Portsmouth and the plan shall be a section in deliverable D-9. Table F-1, deliverable D-9 states that the plan is for transporting cylinders smaller than 12 inches in diameter. Please clarify.

Answer: The offeror shall address cylinders less than 30 inches in diameter in the Transportation Plan section of the Waste Management Plan.

9. SOW element C.7, Related Services, references the NRC and agency agreements between the NRC and DOE. Can you please clarify what role the DUF6 contractor is expected to play relative to any NRC/DOE interaction?"

Answer: Portions of the Portsmouth and Paducah sites are leased to USEC. USEC is regulated by the NRC. The Contractor is expected to support DOE in implementation of the Lease Agreement. Attachment J-5 provides specific information regarding Contractor interaction at the shared Federal sites where the DUF6 conversion facilities are located.

10. Will DOE provide the tank cars for HF Transportation?

Answer: The tank cars for HF transportation will be provided.

11. Does the cooling air flowing through the top of the conversion contract the reactants?

Answer: The conversion unit heating jacket cooling system air does not contact the reactants.

12. What is the plan for loading the cylinders filled with UOx onto the gondola rail car? Specifically, how will the white cap be removed? The span of the gantry crane fixture does not look adequate for safe lift. Where will the cap be placed while filled cylinders are loaded?

Answer: The UOx cylinders will be loaded into the gondola railcars utilizing the 20 ton crane located on the full oxide cylinder staging pad. The crane system, with appropriate hardware, is designed to handle the gondola lids.

13. Site Tour: What is the propylene glycol – next to the H2 generators used for?

Answer: It is used in the process cooling and conversion building HVAC chiller systems.

14. Section F, Table F-1: Deliverable D-6 and D-44 are both QAMPs. Please clarify

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Answer: Reference to the QAMP in D-44 has been removed.

15. Section F, Table F-1 (page F-5): Are D-6 and D-44 duplicates? If no please clarify.

Answer: See response to Question 14.

16. Section F, Table F-1 Deliverables, lists the Quality Assurance Management Plan twice. The first listing is deliverable D-6 due 60 days after Notice to Proceed. The second is deliverable D-44 due 60 days after Contract Award. Is this a duplication? If so, which is correct?

Answer: See response to Question 14.

17. Section F, Table F-1: Some deliverable due dates are based on days after award (eg, D-44). Other deliverables lead times are based on days after notice to proceed (eg, D-6). Are we correct to assume that, in the case of Table F-1, all deliverable due dates are based on days after notice to proceed?

Answer: No, the frequency of the deliverable due dates are as specified in Table F-1.

18. Section F, Deliverable Number D-9, Waste Management Plan: “Include Transportation Plan for cylinders < 12” from Paducah to Portsmouth.” Why are >12” cylinders being transported from Paducah? How many under 12’ cylinders are there? Do they require special handling?

Answer: See response to Question 8 and Amendment 001.

19. If offerors propose less than a 90-day transition, is the contract term still 57 months?

Answer: Section F, F.2 (b) states that, “The Basic Term of the Contract is 57 months from the end of the transition period.

20. Section H Special Contract Requirements and the Section I Contract Clauses have several blanks that must be filled in by the Offeror. Examples include H.8, H.51, and I.78. Will the Offeror be required to fill in information as part of the proposal process? If so, will DOE specify the volume(s)/section(s) in which responses are to be placed?

Answer: Please see Amendment 001. Designated Key Personnel shall be identified as part of offeror’s response to L.23(c) Key Personnel.

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- 21.** Section H.1, (a) (1): Lists CaF₂ as a product. However, Section L, page L-28 states that all CaF₂ is assumed a waste for cost and fee proposal preparation. Again – is the CaF₂ a product or a waste?

Answer: Section H.1 (a) (1) defines product as saleable material. For cost proposal preparation purposes only, the offeror is to assume the CaF₂ quantities resulting from conversion operations are waste.

- 22.** Ref. Pre-Proposal Conference: During the discussion on slide 48 on hiring preferences. It was stated that the 60-day hiring preference period was different from the 90-day transition on the PWS. Would DOE please clarify? Are these periods overlapping? The statement would indicate that they are not.

Answer: The definition for “Workforce Transition Period” can be found in Section H.10 for Portsmouth and H.18 Paducah of the RFP. Both the Mobilization and Transition Phase and the Workforce Transition Period will begin with the Notice to Proceed issued pursuant to F.2(a) of the contract. Section F.2(a) has been revised for consistency.

- 23.** Clauses H.12 (D) 2 and H.20 (D) 2. Table F-1 Deliverables D-54 and D-99 Q&A 165: .In Table F-1, the stated submission date is stated in clause H.12 D (2) and H.20 (D) 2. In its answer to Question 165, DOE stated “Section F has been revised in its entirety, Table F-1 has been reversed to state required submission in terms of days after the Notice To Proceed. Given this answer, may we assume that the submittal date for D-54 and D-99 are based on the Notice To Proceed?

Answer: No, these deliverables stated in clauses H.12(D)2 and H.20(D)2 are excluded.

- 24.** Ref Section H.13 (A) page H- 26: The statement of interest is “employees who may not meet the qualifications for a particular position but who agree to become qualified and can become qualified by the commencement of active employment under this contract with the training provided pursuant to Clause H.13 (A).” It is not clear that the incoming contractor has the ability under contract or financial responsibility to qualify these individuals before they become employees, particularly when the training program referenced will not be implemented before or by the commencement of the next contract. Please clarify the timeline expected for the hiring and qualification of those individuals who may be hired pursuant to Clauses H.11 (A) (1)? (c), (2) (b) (ii), (2) (c) (iii), (3) (a)?

Answer: The incoming Contractor must comply with the preferences in hiring and training requirements for those employees identified in Clauses H.11(A)(1)(c), (A)(2)(b)(ii), (A)(2)(c)(iii), and (A)(3)(a) under the Portsmouth Contract, and Clauses H. 19(A)(1)(c), (A)(2)(b)(ii), and (A)(3)(a) under the Paducah Contract. The employees being referenced in Clauses H.11 and H.19 are UDS Incumbent Employees, USEC Employees, LPP

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Employees, TPMC Employees, PRS Employees, and SST Employees. There is no requirement for the Contractor to train these individuals unless and until the Contractor needs to comply with the preference in hiring requirements in the Contracts that require the training required by Clause H.13(A) and Clause H.21(A). The Department fully expects the Contractor to comply with the preferences in hiring and failure to do so will result in the costs associated with such failure as being unallowable.

The timeline for hiring and training such individuals will depend upon the hiring needs of the incoming Contractor and the qualifications and training necessary for a particular position and of a particular individual. Based upon the Contractor's needs, the Contractor may provide the training during the Workforce Transition Period and/or during the Contract performance period, and before and/or after the individual is employed by the Contractor. The Contractor should ensure that any necessary training before and/or after employment by the Contractor is encompassed within the plans submitted pursuant to Clauses H.14 and H.22, Workforce Transition and Benefits Transition: Plans and Timeframes.

- 25.** Can a list of current subcontractors and their scopes of work be made available?

Answer: See Section H.52 of the RFP.

- 26.** The text of the clause at I.124 titled "DEAR 952.223.71 Integration of Environment, Safety, and Health to Worker Planning and Execution" is not the text prescribed by 48CFR970.2302-2(e). Please clarify.

Answer: Please see Amendment 001.

- 27.** Section J, Attachment J-3, document J-3-4: The RFP describes the J-3-4 document as June 2005 correspondence between Margaret Guerriero and William Murphie regarding TSCA approval for storage for disposal of PCB bulk product. The J-3-4 document available for download from the EMCBC website is an Ohio EPA Director's Final Findings & Orders, dated February 2008. Would DOE please provide the June 2005 TSCA approval correspondence?

Answer: Please see Amendment 001

- 28.** Section J: The reference documents include "J-3-4: To William Murphie, PPPO, from Margaret M. Guerriero ...," a letter regarding TSCA approval for storage of PCB Bulk Product. The document linked is, in fact, not the referenced TSCA approval, but a 27-pae Ohio EPA "Directors's Final Findings and Orders (Feb 21, 2008)." Will you please provide the June 1, 2005 TSCA approval document?"

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Answer: See response to Question 27.

- 29.** REF J-3-4: To William Murphie, PPPO, from Margaret M. Guerriero, Director, Waste, Pesticides and Toxics, US EPA, TSCA Approval for Storage for Disposal of PCB Bulk Product (Mixed) Waste (paint with 50 ppm or greater PCBs on cylinders containing radioactive material) U.S. DOE Portsmouth Gaseous Diffusion Plant, Portsmouth, OH, June 1, 2005. The URL does not link to the referenced letter. Please supply the letter.

Answer: See response to Question 27.

- 30.** Section J, Attachment J-5, DUF6 Services & Contract Interface Requirements Matrix references an Interface Management Plan. Please provide a copy of the existing Interface Management Plan.

Answer: Please see Amendment 001

- 31.** Section “J” of the RFP mentions an Integrated Management Plan. Can this plan be made available?

Answer: Please see Amendment 001.

- 32.** Section J, Attachment J-5: 3 – Physical Security Systems

- Does the incumbent contractor have a separate contract with a protective services organization or is the service provided as a subcontract through USEC?
- What is the current cost or rate schedule?

Answer: Offerors are to refer to Section J-5, DUF6 Services and Contract Interfaces Requirements Matrix which identifies responsibility for the services to be provided. Cost or rates schedule information will not be provided.

- 33.** Section J, Attachment J-5: 7 – Workplace Substance Abuse Program

- Will there be a backcharge for this service to the selected DUF6 project contractor from the DOE contractor providing this service?
- What is the current cost of this service?

Answer: See response to Question 32.

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34. Section J, Attachment J-5: 8 – NMC&A

- Will there be a backcharge for this service to the selected DUF6 project contractor from the DOE contractor providing this service?
- What is the current cost of this service?

Answer: See response to Question 32.

35. Section J, Attachment J-5: 9 – Safeguards and Security

- Will there be a backcharge for this service to the selected DUF6 project contractor from the DOE contractor providing this service?
- What is the current cost of this service?

Answer: See response to Question 32.

36. Section J, Attachment J-5: 21 – Electrical Service

- Does UDS receive their electrical service through the DOE site contractor or did UDS have to obtain their own electrical service?
- What are the current rates for electricity provided to the DUF6 facilities?

Answer: See response to Question 32.

37. Section J, Attachment J-5: 22 – Natural Gas

- Does UDS receive their natural gas through the DOE site contractor or did UDS have to obtain their own service?
- What are the current rates for natural gas provided to the DUF6 facilities?

Answer: See response to Question 32.

38. Section J, Attachment J-5: 23 – Water Systems

During the operating lifetime of the Portsmouth and Paducah facilities, maintenance of the site fire protection water system and domestic water systems will be required. Please provide the rates charged to the current contractor for this service?

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Answer: See response to Question 32.

39. Section J, Attachment J-5: 24 – Wastewater

The DOE contractor supplies sewer collection and wastewater treatment to contractors. Please provide the current rates for this service.

Answer: See response to Question 32.

40. Section J, Attachment J-5: 28 – External Affairs

The DOE site contractor coordinates site and public tours as directed by DOE, including transportation, visitor badging, security, access and access control. Is there a charge to the selected contractor for these services? If so, what is the anticipated charge

Answer: See response to Question 32.

41. Section J, Attachment J-5: 29 – Media Relations

The DOE site contractor coordinates press releases, special tours, clearance of photos and videotape for release, interviews, and provides for routine contract with media for updates and site status. Is there a charge to the selected contractor for these services? If so, what is the anticipated charge?

Answer: See response to Question 32.

42. Section J, Attachment J-5: 31 – Records Management

Is there a charge to the contractor for the services provided? If so, what are the anticipated charges?

Answer: See response to Question 32.

43. Section J, Attachment J-5: 32 – Long Term Records Storage

USEC currently provides long-term physical storage for paper and other hard copy records. Is there a charge to the contractor for the services provided? If so, what are the charges?

Answer: See response to Question 32.

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44. Section J, Attachment J-5: 36 – Analytical Services

Can DOE provide the current rate sheet for the DOE site contractor analytical services?

Answer: See response to Question 32.

45. Section J, Attachment J-5: 41 – Protective Services

Can DOE provide the current agreements and costs for this service?

Answer: See response to Question 32.

46. Section J, Attachment J-5: 42 – Fleet Services

Can DOE provide current rates for use of GSA sedans, pickups and vans?

Answer: See response to Question 32.

47. Section J, Attachment J-5: 48 – Cyber Security

Can DOE provide current rates for the cyber security provided by the DOE site contractor?

Answer: See response to Question 32.

48. Section K, K.5 FAR 52.234-3 Notice of Earned Value Management System – Post Award IBR: Are we to assume that the EVMS referenced in paragraph L.21 (e) is the information required to satisfy the requirements set forth in this clause?

Answer: Yes.

49. Section L, Instructions: As Volumes I and III are not page counted, is it permissible to number the pages consecutively within each tabbed section, starting each tabbed section as number 1? For example section 1 starts as page number 1-1 ending in 1-x, section 2 starts as page 2-1 ending in page 2-x, etc

Answer: Yes.

50. Section L, Vol. III Are financial statements required in Volume III subject to the consecutive page numbering requirement?

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Answer: Yes.

- 51.** Reference L.21(b) – Business Management Systems – Can DOE identify the business systems currently in use by the incumbent and whether these systems are government property or company-proprietary, and will they be made available to the successful offeror – particularly with reference to the systems for accounting, project scheduling, earned value measurement and reporting, procurement, and human resources?

Answer: Offerors are to assume that none of the business systems will transfer to the new contractor.

- 52.** Reference L.21(e) Page Count Exceptions (states that the Earned Value Management System is not included in page count). May we provide non-page counted EVMS material as an appendix to our technical proposal?

Answer: No. Such information shall be provided in Volume I as addressed in the Amendment 001.

- 53.** Section L.21 (e): The Final RFP now includes the OTSP as an appendix to Volume II within the page count. Since the OTSP is intended to function as an executable, stand-alone document, we assume that all exceptions to the page count listed in Section L.21(e) (Table of Contents, Title Pages, Glossary, Dividers/Tabs, Blank Pages, etc.) apply within the OTSP document also. In other words, we assume that only the true content pages of the OTSP count towards the Volume II page limitation. Is this correct?

Answer: No. Please see Amendment.001

- 54.** Section L.21 (h). This section specifies that 10-point or larger Arial or Times New Roman “font type” are to be used. It also states that use of bold-faced type are acceptable. Therefore, we assume that “font type” refers to typeface meaning the family of fonts associated with that type of font – e.g., bold, italics, black. It would also refer to Arial Narrow, which is the same typeface. Arial Narrow is not appropriate in text, but we assume that its use in graphics and schedules conforms with this font type requirement. Is our assumption that “font type” refers to typeface correct?

Answer: Yes, your assumption is correct.

- 55.** Section L.21 (h) and L.21(c). Section (c) specifies that each page should include the name of the Offeror, along with date, page number and solicitation number. Section (h) specifies that these items with the exception of the name of the Offeror can be displayed in the page

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margin. Would DOE consider aligning these 2 requirements to allow the name of the Offeror to appear in the margin?

Answer: Yes. Please see Amendment 001.

- 56.** Given the limited Volume II page count, is it the intent to limit relevant experience to a discussion of the three projects identified in the past performance section per company/major subcontractor? Please confirm this intent excludes the requirement in L.23(b) to provide all relevant experience in performing work of similar size, scope, and complexity and/or risk as this requirement is substantial.

Answer: The page limitation is NOT intended to limit relevant experience discussion. Please see Amendment 001.

- 57.** Reference: L. 23 paragraph 1 and Section C.3.1.2.8. Section C.3.1.2.8 asks for a “A cost breakdown supporting the mobilization and transition activities, “in the OTSP, a part of Volume II, Technical Proposal. This seems inconsistent with Section L.23 that states, “No cost or price information shall be included in the Technical Proposal.” Would DOE consider removing C.3.1.2.8 from the requirements for Volume II as this is required to be covered in Volume III?

Answer: Yes. Please see Amendment 001.

- 58.** Section L. 23(a). Request clarifications on the following:

- The first paragraph in this section requests the offeror to provide information requested in the attached work breakdown structure. The attached work breakdown structure is contained in L-7, but there is no requested information included on the WBS or dictionary.
- The first paragraph of this section requests that the offeror include a crosswalk that correlates the WBS to the SOW. The requested crosswalk is provided in RFP, attachment L-7. As all bidders are required to use the WBS specified in attachment L-7 and the crosswalk is provided, it is unclear what information is needed.

Answer: See Amendment 001 for clarification on L.23 (a).

- 59.** L.23 (a) TECHNICAL APPROACH, page L-20. “The offeror shall describe its technical approach to the execution of each of the requirements of the SOW and the feasibility of the approach. Sufficient detail shall be provided to communicate the offeror’s understanding of the requirements of the SOW.” And, “The offeror shall provide an integrated critical path schedule through contract completion for the activities defined in the SOW corresponding to the offeror’s proposed WBS.”

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Question: Our interpretation of this language is that if the OTSP is to be immediately usable, the level of detail provided in the schedule would have to be at WBS Level 6 or 7. If this is DOE's intent, the number of pages required to provide this level of schedule will be substantial. Should a full schedule be required, would the DOE exclude this schedule from the page count?

Answer: No. Please see Amendment 001 for change in page limitations.

- 60.** Reference L.23 (a) paragraph 4. Section L.23 (a) states in part: "Mobilization and Transition Plan: The Offeror shall describe the approach, plan and schedule for assuming responsibility for the cylinder surveillance and maintenance activity and shall include a schedule of major activities for the 90 day facility Mobilization and Transition Phase. See sec. C.3.1. At a minimum, the plan shall address, in each paragraph, each of the activities specified in Section C.3.1.1 herein." It appears that the list of activities is referring to is in Section C.3.1.2. Please clarify.

Answer: Please see Amendment 001.

- 61.** In Section L.23(a), last sentence of the 4th paragraph, the RFP states "At a minimum, the plan shall address, in a paragraph, each of the activities in Section C.3.1.1 herein." It appears that the correct reference should be C.3.1.2. Is this correct?"

Answer: See response to Question 60.

- 62.** Section L.23 (a) on page L-20 under Mobilization and Transition Plan: contains the following statement..."As a minimum, the plan shall address, in a paragraph, each of the activities specified in Section C.3.1.1 herein. Do you intend to call out Section C.3.1.2 instead?"

Answer: See response to Question 60.

- 63.** Section L.23 (a) requires an OTSP of sufficient quality and content to be immediately usable upon contract award. Due to the page count required to develop an OTSP that meets this requirement, can the OTSP be removed from the 125 page limitation?

Answer: No

- 64.** Will transportation to the Nevada Test Site be done by truck only or will rail to truck transfer site be allowed also?

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Answer: In accordance with L.23(a), the Offeror shall describe the approach and activities for management and disposition of conversion products and other wastes. It is up to the Offeror to determine the appropriate mode of transportation in accordance with appropriate laws and regulations, and that provides overall Best Value to the Government.

- 65.** L.23(b) third paragraph, last sentence “The Offeror must establish that its Earned Value Management System (EVMS) conforms to the requirements in Section H.” Are we correct to assume that this requirement is a request for information in addition to the material provided in the non-page counted material?

Answer: No. Section L.23(b) has been amended to delete the following sentence, “The offeror must establish that its EVMS conforms to the requirements of Section H.”

- 66.** Section L.23 (b) DOE’s response to Question #51 stated “The offeror’s plan to achieve compliance with ANSI/EIA standard 748, if not already in compliance, is required as part of the proposal. The SEB will clarify in the final RFP that the EVMS plan for compliance is not subject to the page limitation.”

In the final RFP, Section L.23 (b) states “The offeror must establish that its Earned Value Management System (EVMS) conforms to the requirements of Section H” in what appears to be the Business Management discussion which is included in the page count. But Section L.21 (e) lists “Earned Value Management System” as a page count exception.

Does DOE expect us to provide a full plan for EVMS compliance outside of the page count as an Appendix to Volume II? If so, is this intended to be the equivalent of the EVMS System Description and which would normally be provided as a part of the submittal for EVMS review and certification?

Answer: See response to Question 65. Please see Amendment 001.

- 67.** Section L.21 (e) states that Earned Value Management System (EVMS) is excluded from the page count. However, Section L.23 (b), third paragraph, states that the offeror must establish that it’s EVMS conforms to the requirements in Section H implying a short answer. Is a full EVMS plan required?

Answer: See response to Question 65.

- 68.** Section L, L.23 (c) The bold typeface statement on page L-24 reads: “Failure to submit resume formats as shown and Commitment Statements may result in the offeror receiving a lower rating.” Do the words “as shown” allow for the use of photos, colors, text boxes, or other readability enhancements or any slight variation in the order of information?

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Answer: Format for Commitment Statements must be provided as shown in Attachment L-1. Resume formats may be altered to allow for photos, colors, text boxes, etc., provided the resume and letter of commitment does NOT exceed four pages.

- 69.** Can Volume III Cost be submitted in an 11''x17'' binder to facilitate review of the pages, i.e. eliminate the folded pages so the reviewers can more easily read the pages?

Answer: Yes.

- 70.** In accordance with paragraph L.24 (e) 1, if the offer employees a SB contractor greater than \$10 million the offer shall provide cost and fee proposals in the level of detail described. Should this information be provided in the cost categories of labor, material, equipment, etc on Attachment L-4 or should the subcontract costs (\$10 million or more) be expanded to include the appropriate cost categories?

Answer: If the SB contractor is a subcontractor, the offeror shall include the costs within the cost category "Subcontract Costs (\$10 Million or more)" on Attachment L-4.

- 71.** Can offerors propose a transition period other than 90 days?

Answer: No. For cost proposal preparation purposes only, section L.24 (e)(1)(iv) states offerors are to assume a 90 day mobilization and transition period.

- 72.** L.24 (e) (2) (ii) states: "The above waste transportation and waste disposal amounts have been included in the waste Quantities and Cost Worksheet, Attachment L-6." However, Attachment L-6 only incorporates amounts within the waste disposal category and does not reflect any DOE provided costs within the waste transportation category. Are the DOE provided waste disposal amounts inclusive of transportation costs, or are Offerors required to separately estimate transportation cost for purposes of completing Attachment L-6?

Answer: The RFP has been revised to delete "waste transportation and," in L.24 (e)(2)(ii).

- 73.** Section L.24 (e) (2) (ii) last statement states that "waste transportation and waste disposal amounts have been included in the Waste Quantities and Cost Worksheet, Attachment L-6". It appears that only the waste disposal cost have been included. Will DOE provide the waste transportation costs as well, or is the Offeror to estimate these costs?

Answer: See response to Question 72.

- 74.** Please provide the current quantities of waste.

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Answer: Waste quantities will not be provided.

75. Section L.24 (k) (2) defines requirements for a Transition Cost estimate. The requirement states: “The Offeror shall provide a transition cost estimate that is of sufficient detail to allow for evaluation of the reasonableness and cost realism of the proposal effort. The information submitted may be in the Offeror’s preferred format, but shall address the cost of the Mobilization and Transition Phase by major transition activity.”

- If the offeror uses a preferred format, should the cost columns in the L-4 tables be left blank?
- If the Offeror uses a preferred format, should the cost be spread into the L-4 tables to correspond to the WBS dictionary?

Answer: All proposed costs, including transition costs, are to be included in Attachment L-4 and correspond to the WBS dictionary. The columns in Attachment L-4 are not to be left blank.

76. Ref. Para L 24(12). The paragraph states that pension costs and health benefit costs for the proposed incumbent active workforce (versus retired/disabled workers) are accounted for using the provided fringe benefit rate. Will the Offeror be responsible to account for the pension costs and health benefits costs for the retired/disabled workers?

Answer: Yes.

If yes, please provide the annual value of the costs.

Answer: The costs associated with the retirees’ and disabled employees’ pension and other benefits are included in the fringe benefit rates provided in Attachment L-9. Offerors should not propose a separate amount for the pension and health benefit costs for retirees and disabled employees.

77. How are offerors to price utilities? Will the government consider providing plug numbers?

Answer: Offerors can propose utilities in various ways. DOE will not provide costs for the utilities.

78. The RFP provides a plug number for the disposition of depleted uranium oxide waste generated from the operations. This limits offerors from proposing innovations which would benefit DOE and therefore does not provide an accurate proposal for the work. Within the context of best value and innovation, we request that the government revise the

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RFP to allow offerors to price waste disposition based on the 50/50 NTS/commercial split.

Answer: DOE appreciates the concern, but it is in the best interest of the government to provide these costs for proposal purposes.

- 79.** In Section L, Attachment L-1 (Key Personnel Resume Format) DOE requests compensation data for each of the positions held by proposed key personnel. Since salary and benefits are subject to Confidentiality Agreements between employee and employer, release of this information would be a breach of these agreements. Would DOE consider removing this requirement?

Answer: Yes. Please see Amendment 001

- 80.** Reference Attachment L-2, ESH&Q Past Performance Indicators: In order to ensure completeness and consistency of data among all offerors, please clarify "Year-to-Date (YTD)" as defined on the form to mean "through June 17, 2009" (the RFP's release date)."

Answer: Year-To-Date is defined as calendar year.

- 81.** The Excel files for Attachments L-4, L-5, and L-6 as provided with the RFP are 10 point font or higher and then scaled down for printing purposes. Is it acceptable to prepare the forms in the font size provided in the Excel files and scale down the pages for the final submittal to DOE? If this is not allowed, the data width will run across multiple 11x17 pages.

Answer: Attachments L-4, L-5 and L-6 are to be completed using 10 point or larger Arial or Times New Roman font and not scaled down for printing purposes.

- 82.** On the L-4 forms, does DOE want separate columns reflecting option 1 or 2 costs for all elements?

Answer: No. Offerors are to use Attachment L-4, WBS 1.01.01.01.04 and WBS 1.02.01.01.04 to reflect Option 1 and 2 costs for all elements.

- 83.** Section L, Attachment L-5 and L-6 include a column heading for FY 2016 and the L-6 report includes DOE provided costs for waste disposal in that year. However, based on Section B.2 (b) which reflects a contract term that ends on 7/31/2015 for the Paducah contract and 4/30/2015 for the Portsmouth contract, and timeframes for the cost estimate reflected in Attachment L-4 that do not extend beyond FY 2015, it is unclear as to DOE's expectations for estimating costs for FY 2016. Can DOE please clarify?

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Answer: The RFP has been revised to delete the column "FY 2016" in Attachments L-5 and L-6 and to correct the provided amounts in Attachment and L-6. The provided amounts in Attachment L-4 are correct.

- 84.** Attachments L-5 and L-6 in the final RFP includes a column for FY 2016. Section B.2 § (b) states that the 'Basic Term of the contract is 57 Months' therefore the contract completion will be in FY 15. Do we have permission to modify Attachment L-5 and L-6 to remove reference to FY 2016?

Answer: See response to Question 83.

- 85.** Reference: Attachment L-6, Waste Quantities and L-4 Cost Worksheet. There is a discrepancy in the costs for FY 2015 between the L-6 report and the L-4 reports for WBS 1.01.02.02.02 and WBS 1.02.02.02.02. Please clarify.

Answer: See response to Question 83.

- 86.** Attachment L-6 includes pre-loaded disposal costs of \$29,012,000 and \$17,773,000. However Paragraph L.24.2 "DOE Provided Costs" states these values at \$27,400,000 and \$16,800,000 respectively. Please clarify the discrepancy and provide the correct number for disposal costs.

Answer: Please see Amendment 001.

- 87.** DOE's WBS (Attachment L-7) references Statement of Work (SOW) elements C.4.12 and C.4.13 for Plant Engineering. There are no such sections – the SOW only goes through C.4.11. Could you please clarify the correct reference?"

Answer: Attachment L-7 will be amended to change the SOW references for Plant Engineering to C.4 and C.5.

- 88.** Reference WBS Dictionary 1.01.01.01.04 and 1.02.01.01.04 and SOW Section C.3.1.3.5 – What does hot functional testing include? There appears to be an inconsistency between the WBS dictionary elements identified above and the requirements of the SOW C.3.1.3.5. The WBS dictionary states "from startup to authorization through demonstration of full production capacity, including ..." On the other hand, Section C.3.1.3.5 states that hot functional testing is an optional work scope.

Answer: Hot functional testing includes the activities identified in SOW Section C.3.1.3.

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Can we assume, if DOE does not exercise the hot functional testing option in the RFP that, upon assumption of the work, partial operations and ramp up to design capacity will have been achieved by the incumbent contractor?

Answer: Yes

- 89.** WBS elements 1.01.01.01.02 and 1.02.01.01.02 appear to be the transition scope for the incumbent contractor prior and during transition. Therefore, we believe that this is a zero cost element for all bidders. Is this correct?

Answer: This transition scope is for this solicitation and is expected to occur during the 3 month transition period. DOE does not believe this will be a zero cost element for all bidders.

- 90.** Attachment L-8. "Incumbent Direct Labor Information" lists the incumbent work force by groups. Please identify which of these groups are entitled to No-Overtime pay, Straight-Time- Overtime pay, and Time-and-a-Half Overtime pay?

Answer: Attachment L-8 provides job titles and average direct labor rates representing straight time pay rates only. Any premium differentials (such as overtime, shift differential, etc.) shall be computed by the offeror.

- 91.** Attachment L-9. "Incumbent Fringe Benefit Rate Information" listed the Collective Bargaining Unit Employee rate and Non-Represented Employees Rate. For each of the 2 categories, please identify the base at which these rates are applied. For example are they based on all labors dollars including overtime or just the base 40 hours?

Answer: Attachment L-9 identifies the fringe benefit rate as a percent of direct labor dollars. The direct labor dollars include overtime.

- 92.** We understand the Incumbent Fringe Benefit Rate to be 89% for Collective Bargaining Unit employees and 60% for Non-Represented Employees. For the CBA employees, please provide copies of the Employee Benefits Handbook, referenced in the Collective Bargaining Agreements, for both Paducah and Portsmouth. In addition, please provide detailed description of the benefits, or benefit plan documents, for all of the benefits for Non-Represented Employees and the percent of total fringe that each benefit represents?

Answer: Copies of the Employee Benefits Handbooks for both Represented and Non-Represented Workforce have been posted on the DUF6 website under the "Reference Documents" section. The offeror shall propose at least the fringe benefit rates specified in Attachment L-9 for Collective Bargaining Unit Employees and Non-Represented

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Employees. The specific percentage for an individual component of the fringe benefit rate specified in Attachment L-9 will not be provided.

- 93.** Would DOE please consider leaving the Volume 2 page limit at 125 pages? No increase please.

Answer: Based on some of the assumptions received from industry concerning the page limitations, it is in the best interest of the government to increase the page limitations to allow for the receipt of complete proposals.

- 94.** We prefer that the page count remains the same. At this juncture, an increase in page count would be a significant disruption to the proposal process. If the page count is increased, we request that DOE provide a two-week extension to level the playing field.

Answer: Offerors currently have another 30 days in which to submit offers and therefore an extension is not necessary at this time. See response to Question 93.

- 95.** We have significant questions affecting our decision to bid and our approach. It is likely we will have follow on questions to the answers. The RFP and slide 59 state questions are due on the 17th. This does not seem reasonable based on not receiving any answers yet. When will question responses be available? Will DOE consider extending the question period?

Answer: Responses to questions will be posted on **7/23/2009** and the Amendment was posted on **7/21/2009**. Offerors may submit questions based on responses provided by the government and/or the Amendment.

- 96.** Slide 35, on Section L, there was an asterisk stating that the number of pages would likely change. This is a significant change affecting all areas of proposal planning and preparation. Yet, the final day for questions is at the end of this week. Would DOE consider moving this deadline for questions if there are pages added to the overall page count?

Answer: See responses to Questions 93, 94 and 95.

- 97.** Sections L and M require a large number of schedules; we assume that DOE would like the schedules in P6 in accordance with requirements? Section L has font restrictions on schedules so the offerors do not have to removing font restrictions on schedules so the offerors do not have to re-draw the P6 output to comply with the restrictions?

Answer: It is desirable but not mandatory at this time.

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- 98.** Reference Documents: The piping and instrument diagrams (PI&D) released to date fail to provide Offerors necessary information on piping and instrumentation utilized by the conversion facilities. Failure to provide this information has placed non-incumbent Offerors at a competitive disadvantage.

All P&IDs related to the following are requested and needed immediately:

- Vaporizers and hot boxes
- Conversion unit
- Oxide product filters and hopper
- Oxide roll compactor and oxide product cylinder fill
- Cylinder transfer system and feed tie-ins
- HF condensers and transfer systems
- Off-gas scrubbing and handling

Answer: Information has been provided.

- 99.** Reference Documents: DUF6-UDS-PLN-007 Revision 1 on the EMCBC website contains only one page. Please supply the complete document.

Answer: The complete document was posted on the website on July 6, 2009.

- 100.** Reference Documents: EMCBC Website Project Plan Documents, DUF6-UDS-PLN-007, Revision 1, August 13, 2006: Radiation Protection Program. The document available for download is limited to the cover sheet. Would DOE please post the entire Radiation Protection Program plan?

Answer: See response to Question 99.

- 101.** Reference Documents: The UDS Project Plan Documents include DUF6-UDS-PLN-007 Rev 1, Aug 13, 2006 "Radiation Protection Program." The document provided is, in fact, not the referenced Plan, but a 1-page periodic review form dated 2-13-08 that indicates that a revised Radiation Protection Plan is in DOE review. Will you please provide the 2008 Radiation Protection Plan or at a minimum the Aug 13, 2006 Rev 1 Plan that is cited in the reference list?

Answer: See response to Question 99.

- 102.** REF DUF6-UDS-PLN-0037 Rev 2 indicates there is a Rev 1 to the Waste Management Plan issued in 2008. Please provide the most recent version of the Waste Management Plan.

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Answer: Rev.1 is the latest version approved by DOE.

- 103.** Will there be a listing of Small Business subcontractors available to the Prime Contractors? In particular I represent a SDB, 8(a), SDVOB, MBE company that is interested in presenting a team that can provide a transload facility for this effort. If there will not be an index of available small business subcontractors, will the attendees of the sites visit be published?

Answer: List of companies will be posted on the DUF6 webpage.

- 104.** Will DOE identify the SSO for this procurement?

Answer: This is source selection information.

- 105.** Will DOE provide offerors the names of all the SEB members?

Answer: This is source selection information.

- 106.** When does DOE plan to make this award?

Answer: Please refer to the following website: <https://hqlnc.doe.gov/registration>

- 107.** Pre-Proposal Conference: In Mr. Rhinehart's opening remarks, it was stated that the DUF6 facility was currently in Start-Up and Testing. This is included in the PWS and included in Schedule B as an option. Does this mean that option 2/1 has been awarded to the incumbent contractor?

Answer: The DUF6 facilities are currently undergoing "system" testing. The system testing being performed is a prerequisite to the DOE ORR and subsequent hot functional testing identified as an option in the RFP.

- 108.** Pre-Proposal Conference: Is there anything that was presented in the Pre-Bid on 7/14/09 that shows a change from the final RFP?

Answer: No.

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- 109.** Pre-Proposal Conference: Did we understand Irma's remark properly - - that DOE plans to issue an amendment to Volume 2 – Technical Approach? If so, when can we expect this? Will this change the due date of the proposal?

Answer: Yes, DOE issued an Amendment to clarify some items in the RFP. The Amendment was issued on 7/21/2009. Given that Offerors have 30 days from which to submit proposals, proposal due dates will remain the same.

- 110.** What business systems are transferring with the plant? e.g. Procurement, accounting, time accounting system

Answer: None.

- 111.** Portsmouth Systems Requirements Document. The document publically released on the Web in February states that the nitrogen support systems is sized at 25% over capacity at 912 kg/hr. Is this peak capacity for all lines, all conversion units operating simultaneously? In addition, Page C-3 of appendix C of the same document states that normal supply rate is 909 kg/hr. This would indicate that 100% and 125% capacity is basically the same. Please clarify.

Answer: Please be advised that the Portsmouth System Requirements Document is marked "Official Use Only" and was not posted to a publicly accessible section of the website.

The 909 kg/hr rate is presented in the nitrogen (N₂) system Process Flow Diagram (PFD) (D-X-0000-NIT-058-M) and the Facility Design Description (FDD) (DUF6-UDS-FDD-PORT) as the expected N₂ consumption rate for all lines operating together, without contingency applied. Appendix C of the Portsmouth FDD provides additional clarification, including the actual capacity,

The flow rate presented in the System Requirements Document (DUF6-UDS-SRD-PORT) provides a design range. This document precedes the PFD and the FDD, and the design criteria values were refined slightly during the design process. In addition, actual capacity of the nitrogen system is based on equipment/module sizes available from the manufacturer.